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-- PATENT APPLICATION --
-- Attorney Docket No. 25,835.11 --

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: M. L. Collins, et al.

Serial No.: 08/238,080

Filing Date: May 3, 1994

Title: TARGET AND BACKGROUND CAPTURE
METHODS WITH AMPLIFICATION FOR
AFFINITY ASSAYS

Art Unit: 1807

Examiner: Dianne Rees

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: The Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date shown below.

LESLIE B. HENSON

(Printed Name)

Leslie B. Henson

(Signature)

12/10/97

(Date of Deposit)

AMENDMENT AFTER ALLOWANCE

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

In the specification:

Please amend the first sentence of the specification as follows:

This application is a divisional application of [U.S. Serial No. 08/400,657 filed March 8, 1995; which is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 08/257,469, filed June 8, 1994 and now abandoned; which is a continuation application of] U.S. Serial No. 08/124,826, filed September 21, 1993 and now abandoned; which is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 07/946,749 filed September 17, 1992 and now abandoned; which is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 07/648,468 filed January 31, 1991 and now abandoned; which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Serial No. 07/136,920 filed December 21, 1987 and now abandoned; and which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Serial No. 06/922,155 filed October 23,

1986 and now abandoned. The disclosures of Serial No. 07[,]/136,920 and 06/922,155 are incorporated herein by reference.

REMARKS

Status of the Application

The subject application and all claims under consideration stand allowed and Notices of Allowance and Issue Fee Due and Allowability have been issued. Applicants have submitted formal drawings and, subject to payment of the issue fee and entry of the proposed amendment, Applicants believe the application is ready to issue.

Applicants' Amendment

Applicants request entry of their amendment pursuant to 37 CFR 1.312(a). Applicants submit it is appropriate to enter their amendment because the amendment will correct a technical error in Applicants' claim of priority for the application. By amendments filed October 18, 1996 and December 5, 1995, Applicants amended the application to claim priority as a divisional application to then pending U.S. Serial No. 08/400,657 filed March 8, 1995 and its predecessor applications. Applicants submit this application is entitled to divisional status; however, Applicants submit that the application is properly a divisional of U.S. Serial No. 08/124,826 which underlies Serial No. 08/400,657 and was pending at the time this application was filed. Serial No. 08/400,657 was not pending at the time this application was filed so that it would not seem to be proper to identify this application as a divisional of Serial No. 08/400,657 (See, e.g., 37 CFR 1.60(b)(1) "The prior application ..."). The additional amendments provided herein merely correct obvious typographical errors in the text of the specification.